

BASED ON THE HIT VIDEO GAME!

Suikoden™

幻想水滸伝



Suikoden III: The Successor of Fate :: Aki Shimizu

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Suikoden

幻想水滸伝

The Fire Bringers may not age, but that does not mean they are immortal—and this volume of Suikoden III will prove it. While Geddoe's mercenary band tries to rendezvous with the Grasslanders, the Grasslanders are pursued by the mighty Harmonian army! Could Geddoe's search for safety only bring disaster? Meanwhile, Wyatt Lightfellow battles the Masked Bishop as Chris Lightfellow and Nash continue their search. Will Chris finally find her father...or just his remains?



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HOW
LONG HAS
IT BEEN
SINCE
I'VE COME
HERE?
TEN
YEARS?







Suikoden

幻想水滸伝

.....successor of fate.....

Vol.6
by Aki Shimizu



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



Story It's far...

The war between the Six Clans of the Grasslands and the Zexen Commonwealth dragged on far longer than either side expected. Tired of the seemingly pointless conflict, both parties sought a truce.

Lucia, chief of the Karaya Clan, sent her son Hugo to Vinay Del Zexay while the Zexens sent Knight Captain Chris Lightfellow (a.k.a. the Silver Maiden) to the Grasslands. Almost immediately after the truce declarations, both sides appeared to be betrayed by their former enemies. The Lizard Clan reported that their leader had been secretly murdered by the Zexens, while Chris Lightfellow heard reports of the Grasslanders ambushing her forces.

Reluctantly, the Silver Maiden agreed to let her forces set fire to the Karaya village in order to create an escape route for her troops. While the Karaya village burned out of control, Hugo, his best friend Lulu, and the Duck Clan warrior Sgt. Joe returned and discovered Lady Chris in the midst of the chaos.

Enraged, young Lulu attacked Chris and—without thinking—the Knight Captain killed Lulu on the spot. Realizing their vulnerability, Sgt. Joe prevented Hugo from attacking Lady Chris and, in return, Chris spared both of their lives.

Hugo and Sgt. Joe eventually found the surviving members of the Karaya Clan taking refuge in the caves of the Lizard Clan. Shortly after Hugo bravely faced the awful task of telling Lulu's mother about her son's murder, he snuck away to seek his vengeance.

Aila and Jimba are two more Karaya warriors who are currently separated from their people. At the time of the attack, Aila was with Geddoo's visiting group of Harmonian mercenaries (who were looking for Jimba) but they were too far from the village and too few in numbers to be of any help. Rather than regroup with her people, Aila decided to accompany Geddoo in order to somehow avenge the destruction of her home.

Though physically unharmed by the battle, Lady Chris found herself mentally exhausted and plagued by guilty dreams of the recent massacre. An orphan, Chris lost her father to the flames of war at a young age, and she became a knight to honor his memory. Unfortunately, Chris realized that warfare was forcing her to ruin families the same way her own was wrecked...that the blood of all those she'd slain had tarnished the hands of the Silver Maiden...and that she could no longer remember her father's face.

Attempting to regain her composure, Chris joined the knight Percival for a festival in his hometown of Iksay, but the town soon came under attack by the Grasslanders. Surrounded by Grasslanders, Chris held her own in a one-on-one battle against Lucia. Before the battle could turn against her, Nash Clovis (a mysterious man who warned Chris of the impending attack) saved her by pitching both of them off a cliff and into a river.



Chris' confrontations with Grasslanders were far from over, as she and Nash ended up at Budehuc castle, which is owned by Sir Thomas...who was playing host to Hugo! Though Hugo attacked from behind, Chris quickly got the upper hand. Chris avoided killing Hugo, but her young opponent would not stop attacking her until Sir Thomas broke up the fight.

After the battle, Chris left her fellow knights to accompany Nash Clovis on a quest to find her father. According to Nash, Wyatt Lightfellow is not only alive, he's also a "Fire Bringer"—a person in possession of a True Rune that grants him incredible powers and longevity. Nash contends that Chris' father is one of the two men who were always at the side of the Flame Champion, the legendary hero who used the power of the True Fire Rune to end the war between the Grasslands and Holy Harmonia.

Soon after Lady Chris departed, a private army from a nearby council appeared at Budehuc castle to take Hugo into custody. With the help of Sir Thomas and his staff, Hugo made a clean getaway, only to discover that Harmonia had invaded the Grasslands and conquered the village of Saffir. Hugo made his way to the village of the Duck Clan, where he met Hallee and Mua, two knights from the Grasslands territory of Kamaro. To save their home, the two men were on a quest to locate the Flame Champion.

Unbeknownst to most of the Zexens or Grasslanders, Chris' father Wyatt Lightfellow and Karaya warrior Jimba are one and the same person. Possessing the True Water Rune, Wyatt/Jimba is also a friend and fellow "Fire Bringer" of Geddoe, who wields the True Lightning Rune. Geddoe's secret possession of the True Lightning Rune was revealed to his allies and enemies alike when he recently used it in battle against an agent of the mysterious Masked Bishop of Holy Harmonia. Despite the revelation, Geddoe's group decided to stay together, though the consequences of the Masked Bishop's knowledge of Geddoe's secret are yet to be known.

With the expiration of the 50-year treaty that maintained the truce between Holy Harmonia and the Grasslands, forces from both sides converged on the Grasslands village known as Chisha. Though vastly outnumbered, the Grasslanders managed to repel the Harmonian attack, thanks to the ingenious stratagems of Caesar Silverberg. Unfortunately, the Grassland's leaders ignored Caesar's warnings when they decided to counterattack, and the ensuing battle forced the Grasslanders to abandon Chisha and make for the Duck Clan's village.

In the meantime, aged Sana told Hugo the previous Flame Champion had thrown away the power of his Rune and, over the years, grew old and died. With some slight hesitation, Hugo took on the True Fire Rune that Sana had been keeping hidden. Upon receiving the power, Hugo swore to use it to defend the Grasslands...though he was too far away to save his friends, family and allies from another defeat. Aside from sheer numbers, the Harmonian forces had two distinct advantages: their attack was led by the wielder of the True Earth Rune—Harmonian Lord Sasaru—and it was planned by Albert Silverberg—Caesar Silverberg's older brother!



SO, THIS
IS WHERE
THE TRUE
WATER
RUNE'S
POWER IS
SEALED?



IT'S
OPEN!



DESPITE
THEIR HIGHLY
ADVANCED
MAGICAL
ABILITIES,
ONLY THESE
TRACES
REMAIN
OF THEIR
CULTURE...

THAT'S
RIGHT.
THE
SINDAR
PEOPLE
LEFT
THESE
RUINS
STRONG
ABOUT
OUR
WORLD...



MOST
LIKELY.



COULD
FATHER
ALREADY
BE
INSIDE...?



THE
STREETS
OF ZEXEN
SEEM
FAR AWAY
NOW.



EVEN
THOUGH
IT HASN'T
BEEN THAT
LONG A
TRIP,
I FEEL AS
THOUGH
I'VE COME
TO THE END
OF A GREAT
JOURNEY.





...EVEN
NOW...
I'M
WANDERING
STILL.

I EMBARKED
UPON THIS
JOURNEY
TO FIND MY
FATHER, SO
I COULD
KEEP MY
MIND FROM
WANDERING...

AND
FOCUS
ON THE
DIFFICULT
TASK OF
BEING
KNIGHT
CAPTAIN.
BUT...



YOU'VE
SAID THAT
A MILLION
TIMES
ALREADY!

OH, GIVE
IT A
REST!

AND
THEN
WHAT
WILL I
TELL
CAPTAIN
MILLIA?

DAMMIT,
I TOLD
YOU THIS
IS A VERY
IMPORTANT
MISSION, BUT
YOU JUST
HAD TO COME
ALONG! NOW HE'LL
PROBABLY
HIND UP
LOST IN
GALERIA!



LOOK AT
THAT!



JUST
BEAR
WITH
ME...

BESIDES,
THE MORE
THE
MERRIER--
RIGHT,
BRIGHT?



A
DRAG-
ON??

WHAT
IS IT?!



THE
HARMONIAN
ARMY IS IN
GHISHA...?



GUESS WE
WON'T BE
SLEEPING
IN AN INN
TONIGHT.



LOOKS
LIKE
THOSE
INVASION
RUMORS
WERE
TRUE.



YOU
ALL
RIGHT?

TH-
THANK
YOU!



I WAS SO
SURE THE
FLAME
CHAMPION
WOULD
SHOW UP TO
SAVE US...
HOW DID
ALL THIS
HAPPEN?

AFTER
SLIPPING AND
SLIDING IN
THE MUD FOR
SO LONG, MY
LEGS ARE AS
STIFF AS TWO
BOARDS.







THAT'S
RIGHT--
THE
HARMONIAN
ADVISOR
WAS ALBERT
SILVERBERG...
MY OLDER
BROTHER.



LEON
SILVER-
BERG
WAS MY
GRAND-
FATHER.



WHICH
MEANS
THAT
YOU'RE
LEON'S--



I MADE
LEON'S
ACQUAIN-
TANCE IN
THE DUNAN
UNIFICATION
WAR.

HE
WAS AN
EXCEP-
TIONALLY
TAL-ENTER
TACTICIAN.





AND IF THE
HARMONIAN
ARMY HITS
US BEFORE
HE CAN
IMPLEMENT
MY PLANS,
HE WON'T
HAVE A
CHANCE.

ON THE
OTHER
HAND,
WE NEED
TO REST
SOON.



WHERE
DO WE
START?
WE'RE
SHORT
OF
EVERY-
THING!

WEAPONS,
MILITARY
FORCE,
TRAINING
AND
COMMAND-
ERS!

ONE THING
IS CLEAR--
WE CAN'T
RELY ON
DIRECT
ATTACKS.



SOUNDS
LIKE FUN!
WE'LL
TAKE THAT
MISSION!



THAT
MIGHT
WORK,
BUT IT'S
PRETTY
RISKY...



HOW
ABOUT
WE SEND
MESSEN-
GERS TO
SET UP
A FAKE
TRUCE?



YOU
SUREP
YOU
COULD
GET
KILLED.



HEY,
ANY REAL
MAN WILL
RISK
DEATH TO
SAVE HIS
FRIENDS!

SO YOU
CAN
FORGET
TRYING
TO TALK
US OUT
OF IT!



HEHEHE



OKAY?



MAY
YOUR
COURAGE
BE YOUR
SHIELD.



Harmonian—
Occupied
Territory:
The Qisha
Qian Lands







THOSE
WETLANDS
ARE TRULY
TERRIBLE!
WATER IN
YOUR SHOES
HORSEFLIES!
MOSQUITOES!



ALSO, OUR
MOUNTED
TROOPS
AND HEAVY
EQUIPMENT
KEEP GETTING
BOGGED
DOWN
WHEN THEY
CROSS THE
WETLANDS.

I
THINK WE
SHOULD
LET THEM
REST FOR
A BIT.

SO FAR,
THEY'VE
BEEN ABLE
TO ELUDE
US. THE
LIZARDS
EXCEL IN
NIGHTTIME
OPERATIONS.



I'M HERE
TO RELIEVE
YOU! MAN,
IT'S COLD
TONIGHT,
AIN'T IT?

YEAH



I HOPE
WE GET
TO GO
HOME
SOON!

YOU
SAID
IT!



HEY!
WHO THE
HELL
ARE
THOSE
GUYS?



THEREFORE,
THE MOST
EFFECTIVE
PLAN WOULD
BE TO
SURROUND
THE DUCK
CLAN LANDS--
AND LAY
SIEGE TO
THEM...

ACCORDING TO
SURVEILLANCE
REPORTS, THE
DUCK CLAN
TROOPS ARE
BEING FORCED
TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT TO THE
SURROUNDING
LANDS AND THEIR
PROVISIONS ARE
RUNNING LOW.







—SUCH AS
THE ONES
DETAILED
IN THIS
MESSAGE.



MOVED BY
THE
SORROWS
OF OUR
COMRADES,
HE HAVE
COME TO
ASK FOR A
TRUCE!



WE'RE
WILLING
TO
CONSIDER
A NEW
TREATY,
EVEN
ONE THAT
WOULD
GRANT
YOU
GREAT
CONCESS-
IONS—



SO,
THAT'S
MR
CARRAR'S
OLDER
BROTHER,
IS?



OH HO!
HE SURE
LOOKS
LIKE A
CREEPY
NEERDO!





OUR
MISSION IS
THE CAPTURE
OF THE FLAME
CHAMPION.
ANYTHING
LESS IS
UNACCEPTABLE.

YOU
WANT
MY RE-
SPONSE?

UNDER
CURRENT
CONDITIONS,
HE CANNOT
POSSIBLY
ACCEPT A
TRUCE!



LET
ME
AT
'EM!!

HOLD
IT!



INDEED?
GO AHEAD
AND SAY
IT!



WELL,
THEN, WE
HAVE A
MESSAGE
FOR YOUR
TACTICAL
ADVISOR
FROM
OUR
TACTICAL
ADVISOR.



"TO MY DEAR BIG BROTHER, AL-BORR: SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE WORKING HARD TO BECOME THE STRATEGIC COMMANDER YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE."

"YOUR OPENING GAMBIT FOR THIS WAR WAS SO PREDICTABLE THAT IT MADE YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER YAWN."

"SINCE SUCH CHILDISH PLOYS CANNOT POSSIBLY CONTINUE TO BE EFFECTIVE, I'D GUESS YOU'RE PROBABLY NOT GETTING MUCH SLEEP AT NIGHT."

"PLEASE TAKE CARE AND TRY TO AVOID ANY BIG SURPRISES. I'M ALWAYS AFRAID THAT ONE DAY THOSE HEAVY EYEBROWS OF YOURS WILL FALL RIGHT OFF."





WE'VE BUILT
DAMS ON
FREE-FLOWING
RIVERS TO
STORE UP
WATER FOR
OUR CLAN'S
USE AND TO
CONTROL THE
FLOW OF THE
WATERWAYS.

WE'VE
LIVED IN
THESE
WATER-
BLESSED
LANDS
SINCE
DAYS OF
OLD, AND
WE'VE
TAKEN
CARE TO
CREATE
FLOOD-
GATES.

WE
DUCKS
LIKE
WATER;
IT'S IN
OUR
NATURE.







THIS WOULD
BE JUST
AS BAD AS
ABANDONING
THE CHISHA
CLAN LANDS!



WELL, WOULDN'T
FLOODING
LAND PUT
THE PUCC
CLAMP

THIS
ISN'T
JUST
YOUR
CLAN'S
PROBLEM.



RIGHT NOW,
WE NEED
A LINE OF
DEFENSE
AGAINST
THE
HARMONIAN
INVASION.

RUNNING
FROM THE
ENEMY
IS QUITE
DIFFERENT
FROM
STOPPING
THEM IN
THEIR
TRACKS.



BASTARDS
LIKE YOU
ONLY
CARE
ABOUT
WHOSE
NAME
GETS
ATTACHED
TO A
GREAT
BATTLE!



SHUT UP!!
DAMNED
BRAT!!

KNOCK
IT OFF!



YOU
DON'T CARE
HOW MANY
OF THESE
GRASSLANDERS
GET KILLED,
DO YOU?

THAT'S
NOT AT
ALL WHAT
I THINK!!



CALM
DOWN,
YOU
TWO!!



CHAPTER 1



MUA AND HALLUC ARE RISKING THEIR LIVES TO BUY US THIS TIME! IS THIS HOW YOU WANT TO WASTE IT?

IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT, DO IT SOME OTHER TIME.



ENOUGH! LET'S SAY YOU FLOODED THE PUCK LANDS. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT?



DUPA HAS A LITTLE OVER THE TOP JUST NOW!



WHAT WOULD THE REFUGEES DO? MY LIZARD CLAN IS ALREADY FULL OF THEM.



THAT WOULD ALLOW US TO SET THE PACE ONCE AGAIN AND TO KEEP THEM FROM FREELY PITCHING BATTLES IN THE WAY THAT SUITS THEM BEST.



THE HARMONIANS ONLY MOVE WITH LARGE EXPERIMENTARY FORCES; THEY CAN'T MANUEVER IN TIGHT PLACES.

IF WE FLOODED THE PUCK LANDS, IT WOULD TOTALLY CONSTRICT THE FIELD OF BATTLE. THE HARMONIANS WOULD QUICKLY FIND THEMSELVES IN SERIOUS TROUBLE.





THEY
FOOLED
US WITH A
FAKE TRUCE,
ASSASSINATED
THE OLD
LIZARD CHIEF
AND BURNED
DOWN OUR
VILLAGE!

DON'T YOU
KNOW
HOW
BAD OUR
RELATION-
SHIP IS
WITH THE
IRON-
HEADS?



WHAT?
IMPOSSIBLE!



YOU
SAY THE
ZEKEN AND
THE GRASS-
LANDERS
SHOULD
BECOME
ALLIES...?



YES.



UNLESS
WE START
THINKING
SMARTER,
THE GRASS-
LANDERS
WILL BE
DESTROYED
BY ATTACKS
FROM BOTH
SIDES.

YES,
BUT IF YOU
MAKE THE
ZEKEN
AND THE
HARMONIANS
INTO
ENEMIES--
CAN YOU
FIGHT THEM
BOTH?



I
AGREE
WITH
CAESAR!





HOWEVER,
WHEN I
LOOK AT
THE TEARS
OF OUR
WOMEN
AND
CHILDREN...

...I SEE
THAT THEY
WISH TO
RETURN TO
THE DAYS
WHEN WE
LIVED IN
PEACE.



DIGNITY
IS SO
IMPORTANT TO
GRASSLANDERS
THAT WE
WILL PERISH
TRYING TO
PROTECT
IT.

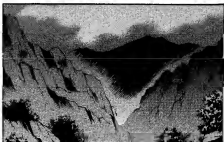
CONSIDERING
ALL OUR
COMRADES WHO
DIED IN BATTLE
AGAINST THE
IRONHEADS,
IT IS INDEED
ALMOST
INCONCEIVABLE
TO CONSIDER
JOINING UP
WITH THEM.



IS
IT NOT OUR
ROLE AS
CHIEFTAINS—
ABOVE ALL
ELSE—
TO PROTECT
THEM?







I TOLD
YOU--
WE NEED
TO HURRY
TO THE
CHIBALL
CLAN
LANDS!

NOT EVEN
A DAY'S
REST
FOR US?
ARE YOU
CRAZY?



IT'S
JUST...
THESE
HARMONIAN
MERCE-
NARIES--
CAN HE
REALLY
TRUST
THEM?

OH!
UM--
IT'S
NOTHING.

WHAT'S
WRONG,
HUGO?





A LITTLE LATE FOR YOU TO BE WORRIED ABOUT GETTING OLD, HNT IT?

IT MUST BE NICE TO HAVE THE TIME TUNE'S POWER TO KEEP YOU FROM GROWING OLD!

THEY'RE ALL GOOD PEOPLE! JUST A LITTLE WEIRD.



H-HEY! YOU'RE CUTTING ME! YOU'RE CUTTING ME!!

OH, WHOOPS—I SEEM TO HAVE SLIPPED!



I HEARD THEY DIDN'T JOIN UP WITH GADGRO FOR THE MONEY!

THEN, WHY--?

THEY REALLY ARE WEIRD.

UHM...

A WOMAN HAS NOTHING TO FEAR FROM AGE. THERE ARE EVEN PLACES IN THE WORLD WHERE OLDER WOMEN ARE ACTUALLY REVERED...

...AND
PARTLY
BECAUSE,
WELL,, WE
AREN'T
REALLY
HARMO-
NIANS.

PARTLY
BECAUSE
OUR
LEADER,
GEBBOS,
WANTED TO
HELP
YOU...

YOU MEAN,
WHY ARE
WE HELPING
YOU--
YOU WHO
SHOULD
BE OUR
ENEMY?



GEBBOS
JUST PICKED
JACQUES UP
HANDLING
SOMEWHERE
OR OTHER.



TRUE.

JOKER,
TOO...
YOU HAVE
A LONG
HISTORY WITH
CALERIA, BUT
YOU'RE FROM
SOMEWHERE
ELSE, AREN'T
YOU?



ACE IS A
MERCENARY
FROM SOME
OTHER
COUNTRY.



OH.



I
DON'T KNOW
A LOT ABOUT
GEBBOS.
HE DOESN'T
TALK ABOUT
HIMSELF
VERY MUCH.



AS FOR ME,
MY COUNTRY
WAS OVERTURN
BY HARMONIA
WHEN I WAS
A CHILD AND I
HAD NOWHERE
ELSE TO GO.





YEAH?
WHAT'S
IT LIKE
THERE?



THAT'S
RIGHT--
I'VE
BEEN TO
HARMONIA
RECENTLY!



SODA?

UH HUH/
IT WAS
BLUE
AND
FIZZY
AND
SWEET!

...AND I
BOUGHT A
STRANGE
DRINK
CALLED
"SODA!"

THERE WAS
THIS TOWN
SURROUNDED
BY STONE
HILLS,
AND PEOPLE
WERE SELLING
THINGS
BY THE
ROADSIDE...



WHAT
ARE
ALL THE
OTHER
KARA-
YANS
UP TO
NOW?



NOW! IT
SOUNDS
REALLY
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
KARAYA
LANDS.
HUH?



THE SURVIVORS ARE BEING SHELTERED BY THE LIZARD CLAN.

YOUR MOTHER IS PRETTY WORRIED-- YOU SHOULD GO BACK SOON.



WHO DIED?



THERE ARE STILL TEN PEOPLE MISSING.

OLD MAN KASSAR, AND THE SHOOK BROTHERS WERE BURNED TO DEATH.

THE ENTIRE PAIBA FAMILY WAS CUT DOWN BY THE IRONHEADS... LULU, TOO...

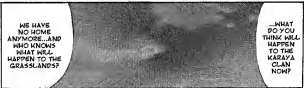
MOST OF THE LIVESTOCK BURNED TO DEATH OR RAN AWAY...



HE WAS ALONE, BUT HE WAS SAFE!

HEY, YOU KNOW WHAT, HUGO?

I RAN INTO JIMBA!











**R
U
N
!!**





HOW
SHOULD
I KNOW?



WHY IS IT
ATTACKING
US HERE?!



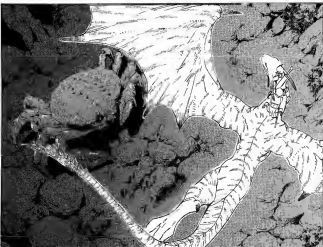
HE
WANTS
TO SEE IF
I CAN BE
A HERO!



CAN YOU
BEAT IT,
HUGO?













I
DON'T
KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE, BUT
THANKS—
YOU
SAVED
US!



ARE
YOU
ALL
RIGHT?





MY
NAME
IS
FUTCH.

CAPTAIN OF
THE MAIN
FORCE OF
DRAGON
KNIGHTS OF
THE FOURTH
ORDER.
OUR DRAGON
CAVE IS IN
THE TORAN
REPUBLIC
TO THE
SOUTHWEST!



SHARON!
DRAGON
KNIGHT
APPRENTICE!

AND, UH,
SHE'S--



REACTING TO



SO, FOUR
MORE
YEARS,
HUN?

I'M
SIX-
TEEN.

HOW
OLD ARE
YOU?



ARE YOU
SAYING
I'M
STILL
JUST A
KID?!



AH--!
FORGIVE
US!

KNOCK
IT OFF,
SHARON!





WE'VE BEEN
SENT TO
GATHER
INFORMATION.

YEAH.
WE HEARD
THAT
THERE'S
BEEN A
LOT OF
COMOTION
IN THE
GRASSLANDS
LATELY.

A DRAGON
KNIGHT, EID?
YOU'RE A
RARE SIGHT
AROUND
THESE PARTS!

HIS
NAME'S
BRIGHT!

HEH HEH!
HE'S KIND
OF CUTE!

I SAW
IT WITH
MY OWN
EYES--
THERE
WAS NO
MISTAKING
IT!



WHAT
--?!

WE'VE
BEEN
OVER THE
GHISHA
LANDS.

THEY'RE
OCCUPIED
BY THE
HARMONIAN
ARMY--
YOU
PROBABLY
SHOULDN'T
GO THERE.









WE HAVE
TO MAKE
SURE THE
HARMONIANS
DON'T GET
THE TRUE
RUNES.

THE ORDER
OF THE
DRAGON
CAVE'S
ENEMY IS
HARMONIA.
NOT THE
GRASS-
LANDS.



DO YOU
THINK IT'LL
BE SAFE,
LETTING
THEM GO
ALONE?
THEY'RE
STILL
KIDS...



WOW,
BOSS--
YOU
SOUND
LIKE
YOU'RE
HIS
FATHER!



IF HE CAN'T
HANDLE
EVERYTHING
THAT RESTS
ON HIS
SHOULDERS
AS THE FLAME
CHAMPION,
WE'RE IN BIG
TROUBLE.



IT'S ALL
IN THE
HANDS
OF THAT
LITTLE
HERO,
NOW!





OHMM,
I SEE.



WHY
DO YOU
ASK?



OH--
ER, IT'S
THE SCAR
FROM A
BURN.



HUGO,
WHAT'S
THAT MARK
ON YOUR
ARM?



HE WAS
A GOOD
PERSON.

OH, IT JUST
REMINDS ME
OF AN OLD
COMPANION...
WHO HAD
A SIMILAR
MARK.



WHAT
?



...BUT
WHEN HE
SAW THE
FIRES
SPREADING
FROM THE
BATTLES
IN CHISHA
LANDS—

—HE
DECIDED
TO GO
CHECK
THINGS
OUT.

OH...WE
WERE
ACTUALLY
GOING TO
BUDHUC
CASTLE...



WHERE
WERE YOU
HEADED
FOR YOUR
RECON-
NAIS-
SANCE?



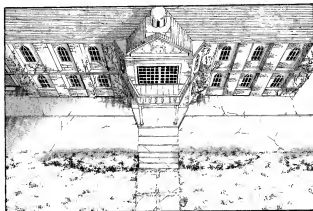
BUDHUC
CASTLE?
ISN'T
THAT
WHERE
THOMAS
IS?

THEY
HAVE
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH THIS
WAR.

WELL,
THERE IS
A RUMOR
THAT THE
"FIRE
BRINGERS"
ARE
GATHERING
THERE.



HOW
DO YOU
KNOW
THAT?





GOOD MORNING!

HEY, ERIE!

HOW DO YOU LIKE THE CHATEAU SO FAR, ERNIE?

OH, IT'S GREAT--
EVERYONE'S SO NICE!

OH! SIR THOMAS!

HEY THERE, SIR THOMAS!

LOOKS LIKE HARD WORK, GORO! TRAINING MUTO!

DO YOU STUDY ANCIENT HISTORY? THAT'S WONDERFUL!

YOU'LL NEED SOME WORKSPACE FOR YOUR RESEARCH WHILE YOU'RE HERE?

IT'S BEEN MOORED HERE AT THE CASTLE FOREVER.

IT'S A WRECKED SHIP FROM SOMEWHERE OR OTHER.

WEN HEN! WELL, I JUST LOOKED AT IT AND SUDDENLY I GOT INSPIRED!

YOUR IDEA TO TURN THAT BOAT BEHIND THE CHATEAU INTO A BATHHOUSE WAS BRILLIANT!

IT'S BEEN MOORED HERE AT THE CASTLE FOREVER.

IT'S A WRECKED SHIP FROM SOMEWHERE OR OTHER.

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WEN HEN! HELL, I JUST LOOKED AT IT AND SUDDENLY I GOT INSPIRED!

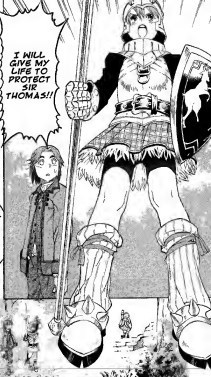
YOUR IDEA TO TURN THAT BOAT BEHIND THE CHATEAU INTO A BATHHOUSE WAS BRILLIANT!



IT'LL BE AN OPEN-AIR BATH SO RELAXING THAT IT WILL MAKE ALL THOSE WHO ENTER IT JUST SLIP CARELESSLY OFF TO SLEEP...

WELL, MY DREAM IS TO BECOME THE GREATEST BATHHOUSE OWNER IN HISTORY!









GO THERE.
YOU WILL
LEARN
EVERY-
THING.

SEE
YA.

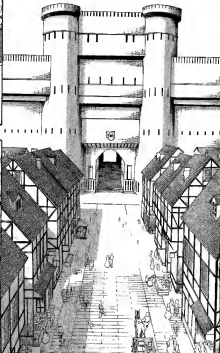


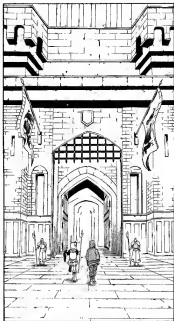
HAVE I
DONE
BADLY
AS LORD
OF THIS
MANOR?

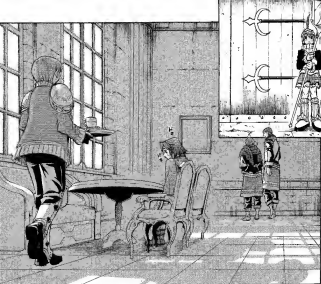


HUH?
OH,
NOTHING!

SIR
THOMAS?
WHAT'S
WRONG?









SORRY
TO KEEP
YOU
WAITING.

OH, NO--
NOT AT
ALL!



I'M SURE
YOU'VE
ALREADY
GUESSED.

I'VE
CALLED
YOU HERE
TODAY--



--TO
DISCUSS
YOUR
RIGHT
TO THE
SEAT
OF THAT
CASTLE.





THERE
WE
HAVE
IT...







WHAT
ARE YOU
AFTER?
MONEY?
POSITION?



NO, I
DON'T
REALLY
WANT
THAT...

HUH?



THAT'S
RIGHT!
SHE SAID
THAT IF I
SHOWED
IT TO YOU,
YOU'D
KNOW
WHO I
WAS!



ALL
YOU CAN
THINK
OF IS TO
SHAM
AROUND
ME!

MOTHER
AND
SON—
BOTH
SHAME-
LESS
BARBAR-
IANS!



ENOUGH!
I'M
BUSY
RIGHT
NOW!

I'LL GIVE
YOU A
CASTLE
NEARBY.

SURELY
THAT'S
WHY YOU
CAME TO
SEE ME.





AND AS
TO THE
PEOPLE
LIVING
THERE...?



THEY WILL
BE GIVEN
MINIMAL
GUARAN-
TEES ON
THEIR
LIFE-
STYLE.



HOWEVER,
I CAN'T
IMAGINE A
KID LIKE YOU
COULD SEE
SUCH A
GREAT
TASK TO ITS
COMPLETION.



THEN
--/



AND MY
IDEA TO
CREATE
A FREE
TRADE
ZONE
THERE?



WE'VE
HEARD
ABOUT
WHAT
YOU ARE
TRYING TO
DO THERE.

IF IT EVER
BECAME A
REALITY, IT
WOULD BE
A GREAT
BENEFIT--
NOT ONLY TO
ZENON, BUT
ALSO TO THE
SURROUNDING
TERRITORIES.

EVEN IF
YOU COULD
OVERCOME
THESE, YOU
WOULD
NEED SOME
SORT OF
GOVERNING
SYSTEM.

TRADE
BRINGS
MANY
PROBLEMS—
COLLECTING
LEVIES,
PATROLLING
THE ROADS.

DO YOU
REALLY THINK
YOU HAVE THE
NECESSARY
FOUNDATION
TO PULL ALL
THAT OFF?





ACTUALLY,
I DON'T
CARE IF
I'M NOT
THE
CASTLE
LORD--

--JUST
SO
LONG AS
EVERYONE
AT THE
CHATEAU
IS HAPPY.

AS LONG
AS THEY
CAN LIVE
TOGETHER
WITH
EQUALITY
AND
FREEDOM!



YES!
I CAN DO
IT!
I CAN
MAKE IT
WORK!



PEOPLE
HAVE BEEN
COMING.
EVERYONE
AT THE
CHATEAU IS
WORKING
WELL
TOGETHER!

A CLEAR
PLAN
HAS
FINALLY
COME
OUR
WAY!



...IF THE
FREE
TRADE
ZONE
BECOMES
A
REALITY...

IN EX-
CHANGE

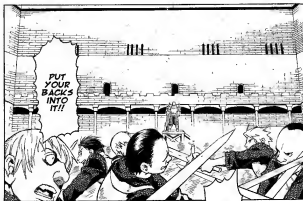


IT'S NOT
UNBECOMING
FOR A CASTLE
LORD TO
ENTRUST
PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT
TO HIS
MINISTER
WHEN HE'S
BUSY,
NOW IS IT?

HOW
ABOUT
IT?

YOU'LL GET
TO STAY
AS THE
MATERIAL
LORD
OF THE
CASTLE--
AND I'LL GAIN AN
ALLY.







AND THAT NASH CLOYIS. CAN WE REALLY TRUST HIM?



COME ON, NOW-- CALM DOWN!



DAMNIT, PERCIVAL, AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT LADY CHRIS?



WAIT? BUT SHE'S ALREADY BEEN GONE TOO LONG!



I'D BE A LIAR IF I SAID I WASN'T-- BUT ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT!



SHE SAID SHE WAS FOLLOWING THE FIRMS OF WAR-- BUT WHERE DID SHE GO?

WHY HASN'T LADY CHRIS COME HOME YET?



...SHE'LL
WANT TO
COME
BACK TO
US...



IT'S
TRUE...

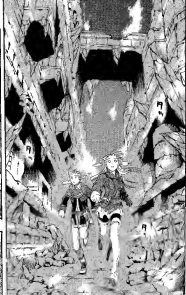






AFTER
MOTHER
SUCCUMBED
TO HER
ILLNESS, I
DID ALL I
COULD TO
BECOME A
KNIGHT.

I THOUGHT
THAT IF I
GOT STRONG
ENOUGH, I
WOULD BE
FILLED WITH
SOMETHING...



...AN
EMPTI-
NESS.

BUT, IN
THE END,
ALL I HAD
WAS...





SO, THIS
IS THE
MASKED
BISHOP?



I
HAVE NO
CHOICE...

HE TRIES
TOO HARD
TO LOOK
MENACING!



YOU
CHOOSE.

ARE YOU
GOING TO
HAND OVER
YOUR RUNE
BEFORE I
KILL YOU OR
SHOULD I
JUST KILL
YOU NOW?











SINCE I
HAVE NO
CHANCE OF
WINNING--

I MIS-
JUDGED
YOUR
STRENGTH.



--WHAT ARE
YOU GOING
TO USE
THEM FOR?



STARTING A
REVOLUTION
IN
HARMONIA?



--LET
ME ASK
YOU ONE
THING.

ONCE
YOU'VE
COLLECTED
THE RUNES
OF THE FIVE
POWERS--



I CAN'T
BREATHE!!



WIND
ISN'T
JUST
USED TO
BLOW
THINGS
AROUND.



GAH--!

UGH--!

...AND
CREATES
THE ATMO-
SPHERE
AROUND
YOU.



IT ALSO
CONTROLS
THE AIR
PRESSURE...



UH—!

WHAT DO YOU THINK
HAPPENS
WHEN I
CHANGE
THE
PRESSURE
IN A
HUMAN
BODY?

THAT'S
RIGHT—





I AM
LOOKING
AFTER
THE
FUTURE
OF THE
WORLD.



YES.
THIS WORLD
STARTED
WHEN THE
NOTHINGNESS
WAS DIVIDED
INTO ORDER
AND CHAOS.

IT HAS
GRADUALLY
BEEN
HEADING
TOWARDS
COMPLETE
ORDER.

THE
WORLD--



I STRIVE
FOR A
WORLD
IN WHICH
DEATH'S
ORDER
RULES.

THE START
OF LIFE IS
THE START
OF CHAOS.
ONLY DEATH
BRINGS
ORDER.

...THAT
THE
RUNE IS
SHOWING
YOU?

YOU'VE
SEEN IT,
TOO,
HAVEN'T
YOU?

THE
END
RESULT...

...OF THIS
WORLD...











I'VE
GOTTEN
IN HERE
FASTER
THAN THAT
WARPED
FELLOW...



SO...
THIS IS
THE SEAL
THE FLAME
CHAMPION
MADE.
WHEN YOU
LOOK AT IT,
IT SEEMS TO
LOOK BACK
AT YOU.



SO,
FINALLY
WE HAVE
ONE RUNE.



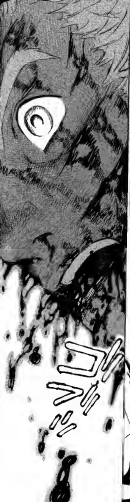
THREE
MORE TO
GO...



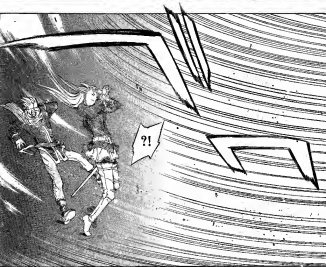


















CHRIS
REALLY
LOOKS
LIKE YOU,
DOESN'T
SHE?

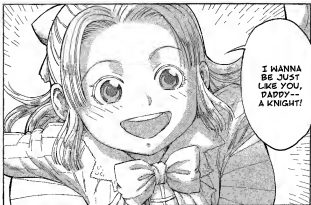


WELL,
SHE
GETS HER
STRONG
SPIRIT
FROM YOU!



WHAT
DO YOU
WANNA BE
WHEN YOU
GROW UP,
CHRIS?





I WANNA
BE JUST
LIKE YOU,
DADDY--
A KNIGHT!



I'M
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO IT!



REALLY,
NOW?
HEE,
HEE!

HA, HA!
GOOD
FOR
YOU!



THAT WAY,
I CAN
ALWAYS
BE AT
YOUR SIDE,
DADDY!





DADDY!!















LOOKS
LIKE WE
CAN'T
STICK
AROUND
LONG...



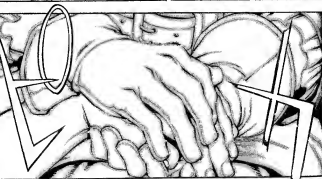
THAT'S---!



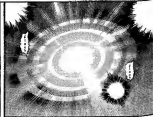
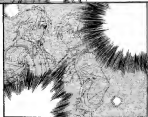
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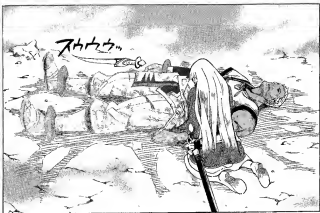




























I'LL
BET YOU
GET
INTO ALL
SORTS OF
TROUBLE.
DON'T
YOU?

DIE



IT
JUST
SEEMS
TO FIND
ME.



BESIDES,
THE PERSON
WHO SENT
ME DOESN'T
REALLY LIKE
VIOLENCE.

IF I HAD
KILLED
HATT,
I'D REALLY
HAVE
GOTTEN RUN
THROUGH
THE
WINGER...



THANK
YOU,
NASH.



FAREWELL,
SILVER
MAIDEN.











IT'S TO
PREVENT
THE FLAME
CHAMPION
AND THE
TRUE FIRE
RUNE FROM
BEING
CAPTURED.



MY TRUE
MISSION
ISN'T TO
SPY ON THE
SITUATION
HERE...



I'VE HAD
EXPERIENCE
FIGHTING
TWO GREAT
BATTLES
ALONGSIDE
THE
BEARERS
OF THE
TRUE
RUNES.



EVEN NOW,
ANOTHER
GREAT
BATTLE OVER
THE RUNES
THREATENS
TO ENVELOP
THE WORLD.



TWO
GREAT
BATTLES?

WHEN I
SAY IT LIKE
THAT, IT
REALLY
SOUNDS AS
IF IT WAS
FATED IN
THE STARS.

SHARON,
NOW'S NOT
THE TIME
FOR AN
APPRENTICE
DRAGON
KNIGHT TO
INTERRUPT!

A WAR?
IS THERE
GOING
TO BE A
WAR?

--I'VE HAD
THIS
PREMO-
NITION--
SO I'VE
BEEN
PREPARING
FOR IT.

EVER
SINCE I
PROMISED
OUR
CAPTAIN
I'D
PROTECT
THE TRUE
RUNES--

JUST
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN
BY THAT?

...THE
BURNING OF
THE KARAYAN
LANDS BY THE
IRONHEAPS,
AND EVEN
LULU'S
GETTING
MURDERED...

FATED IN THE
STARS?
THIS
BATTLE, MY
BECOMING
THE FLAME
CHAMPION...



WERE THESE
ALL
FATED BY THE
STARS?

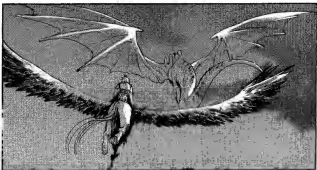
JUST WHAT
IS FATE
TRYING TO
MAKE ME
DO?



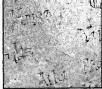
WHAT IS THIS
SUFFERING? A
TRUE RUNE
BRINGS THAT
GEDDOE TOLD
ME ABOUT?

I DON'T HAVE
MEMORIES
FROM INSIDE
THE RUNE
ANYMORE.











THE
RUNES'
BEARERS
MUST
TRULY
HATE US
BY NOW.

SO,
WE'VE
FAILED
WITH BOTH
THE FIRE
AND WATER
RUNES...



FOR-
GIVE
ME.



WELL,
HOW
DID IT
GO?



--BUT I
BELIEVE
THAT WE
COULD NOW
USE SOME
ASSISTANCE.

MASTER LUC, I
KNOW YOU ARE
BRAVE ENOUGH
TO ATTEMPT
SOMETHING
THAT WILL
PROBABLY
DISCREDIT
YOU FOR
GENERATIONS
TO COME--



YOU
THINK SO?
ALL I GOT
FROM HIM
WAS THE
DESIRE
FOR WAR.



THAT'S
WHY THAT
TACTICIAN
WAS
ASKED TO
HELP US.



LET'S
GO.

THERE'S
NO
SENSE IN
WASTING
OUR TIME
HERE.



HOW-
EVER...

WHAT I'M
DOING
MAY
WELL BE
FOOLISH.



“”

...I
CAN NO
LONGER
GO BACK!

IF I DID,
MY BODY
WOULD BE
DESTROYED.

”

The wind is rising.

Saikoden III
— The Successor of Fate —
Continued in Vol. 7

The Order of the Dragon Cave

The Order is a military organization based in a tower deep in the Dragon Cave in the Kunan Territory of the Toran Republic. Each Dragon Knight is paired with a dragon, and 50-60 Dragon Knights belong to the Order. Because of their great military strength, they enjoy self-rule.

The Toran Republic

After the Scarlet Moon Empire (which had gained independence from Holy Harmonia in the War of the Gate Runes (Saikoden I)) was destroyed, the Toran Republic was built by the gathered troops who had been dispersed. It's in the southernmost part of the continent.



The Knight Order's Ranking

- First Rank: The Dragon Father (legendary)
- Second Rank: The Dragon Knight Captain—Successor of the Dragon Rune
- Third Rank: Dragon Knight Sub-Captain
- Fourth Rank: Dragon Knight Large Team Commander—Falk
- Fifth Rank: Dragon Knight Mid-Sized Team Commander
- Sixth Rank: Dragon Knight Small Team Commander
- Seventh Rank: Senior Dragon Knight
- Eighth Rank: Junior Dragon Knight
- Ninth Rank: Apprentice Dragon Knight—Sharon



About the Dragon Rune

The Dragon Rune is one of the 27 True Runes. The bearer gains the power to control dragons. It is inherited from generation to generation among the captains of the Order of the Dragon Cave, who demonstrate the best ability in their missions. At present, Sharon's mother, Milia (who doesn't appear in this manga), is the bearer of the Rune.

Karenyan
Hargo

(liberated from the
Emse Chameleon)

Harmonian Border
Patrolman
Geddoe

The Zexen Knight Captain
Chris
lightfellow

The
Iron Fire Rune

The
True Lightfellow Rune

The
True Water Rune

These are the five
powers, which hold the
world in balance.
Those who possess
them shall gain a
life without age and
fearsome powers.

The
True Wind Rune

The
True Earth Rune

The Masked
Bishop
Igc

The Harmonian
Bishop
Sasarai

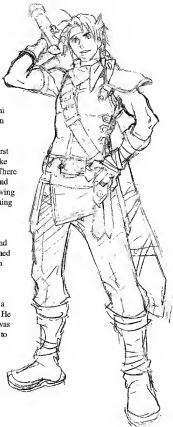
So, it's come out late again, this 6th volume. Next time, I'll get it right... I'm sorry.

I tried to draw Bright, who Mr. Konami told me would "be all right to be drawn bigger," like they said.

So, it's already been a year since the first volume came out, huh? I finally feel like the story has become the main focus. There have been more and more characters and sub-plots and I've thought, "Well, drawing them to give all their appropriate meaning is gonna be hard but I look forward to making them my own!"

As for the art for the previous game, and the game before it (I and II), I've planned to include a larger portion of them than Game III's.

Oh, yeah! For the crab monster (Crab Punch) who appeared this time, I used a live, hairy crab I bought for 5000 Yen. He was all chubby and blew bubbles—he was real cute! After I used him, I gave him to my staff to enjoy his flavor.





Suikoden

幻想水滸伝

The embaffled Grasslanders badly need a victory, and for that they need a champion. But is Hago up to the task? Meanwhile, Chris Lightfellow returns to Zexen... but how will the True Water

Rune and the loss of her father affect her duties as Knight Captain? Finally, as intricate machinations inside the Harmonian forces are revealed, death stalks another Rune Bearer...but who will it be?

